



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

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## *December 2024 Newsletter*

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### **Upcoming IRC Meetings and Events:**

**January 10:** Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ, Co-Founder of Elecraft (via Zoom).

**February 21:** Our annual CES report from Dave Arland (note this is the **3rd Friday**)

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### **Highlights from the December Meeting:**

This was the club's annual Christmas Holiday Pitch-In gathering. The club Polo shirts were available for pick up for those that had ordered them. There were 49 members, friends, and family members in attendance. Those present enjoyed a meal of Fried Chicken, provided by the club, and many side dishes, entrees, and desserts, provided by members. Many door prizes were given away, including the Grand Prize of a \$100 DX Engineering gift certificate, won by new ham and new club member Cindy Vrabel, KE9BZK. There was also a 50/50 drawing, won once again by the Wayne Michael, AC9HP family.



[Photo of club members in attendance at the Holiday Pitch-In.]

## **Ham Radio News:**

### **TECHNICIAN CLASS COMING UP**

There will be a 2-day Technician license preparation class offered at McKenzie Career Center (7250 E 75th St.) on Jan. 18, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and Jan. 25, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm with testing after. Contact Frank Merrill, K9LX to register at [k9lxradio@gmail.com](mailto:k9lxradio@gmail.com)

### **PARKS ON THE AIR STATISTICS FOR 2024**

As we all know, the Parks on the Air Program is extremely popular, accounting for a high percentage of Amateur Radio activity. Following are POTA stats for 2024, as of December 18, per W7RTA, one of the admins of the POTA Discord Server:

- 12,115,359 POTA QSOs logged
- 13,574 activators
- 301,228 hunters
- 27,951 parks activated
- 146 entities activated

Of these QSOs, around 6.9 million were SSB, 2.4 million were FT8, 2.2 million were CW, with the rest being other digital modes.

### **INDY RADIO CLUB DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW**

Don't forget to pay your Indianapolis Radio Club dues. Individual dues are still only \$20 per year. The easiest way to pay is to go to use the PayPal widget at <https://tinyurl.com/irc-dues-payment>

Be sure to include your callsign with your submission. Remember that you can pay multiple years if you would like. Your dues enable the club to continue activities such as VE testing, new Amateur outreach, and club POTA events.

## ONE DAY TECH CLASS AND TESTING COMING UP

Watch your email for details on a one-day Technician class and testing session, presented by David Spoelstra, N9KT and Jim Rinehart, K9RU. The class and testing will be an all-day session, coming up in the first quarter of 2025. David and Jim have had great success with this type of session in the past. So, if you know someone that wants to get into the hobby, let them know.

## WAYS TO SUPPORT THE IRC

You can support the Indianapolis Radio Club in any, or all, of these four ways:

1. Join the club. Your annual membership dues (\$20 for an individual, \$30 for a family (in the same household), or \$10 for a student, with valid ID) help support the club in its mission to promote our hobby by sponsoring monthly VE testing sessions, reaching out to new licensees, and welcoming them to the hobby. The easiest way to join is to go to <https://tinyurl.com/irc-dues-payment> and complete the process through PayPal.
2. Pay your ARRL membership dues through the IRC, utilizing the Club Commission program. The club will get a \$5 commission for renewals, or a \$20 commission for new memberships. Fill out the form available at <https://tinyurl.com/ARRL-membership-form> and send it, along with payment, to club treasurer, KJ9B. Or fill out one of the forms at an in-person meeting.
3. Join the Kroger Community Rewards program (it's free!) by going to <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards> and designating the Indianapolis Radio Club as the charity you want to support. The club then gets a quarterly donation from Kroger based on a percentage of the amount spent by those supporting the club.
4. If applicable, donate part or all of your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) to the Indianapolis Radio Club, a 501(c)(3) charity.

If you have any questions about any of the above, please contact Ken Bandy, KJ9B, at [treasurer@indyradioclub.org](mailto:treasurer@indyradioclub.org).

## K9RU "PASSING THE TORCH" ON VE TESTING TEAM

After being the primary Volunteer Examiner Team Leader for the Indianapolis Radio Club's VE Team, Jim Rinehart, K9RU found a sucker, I mean successor. Jim Kajder,

AC9ZL will be the primary team leader, effective January 1. K9RU, according to ARRL records, has been an accredited VE since 1991, and has logged 273 sessions. Thanks, Jim and Jim for all your work!

## **ARRL KIDS DAY JANUARY 4**

If you want to give a youngster a thrill, get on the air on January 4 between 1800 and 2359 UTC (1:00 pm to 6:59 pm Indy time) and listen for “CQ Kids Day”. Better yet, if you know some youngsters that are “radio curious” host them at your station and get them on the air. For details, go to <https://www.arrl.org/Kids-Day>

## **UPCOMING CENTRAL INDIANA TESTING SESSIONS (check with sponsor before planning to attend)**

Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Sponsor: GCARC  
Date: Dec 24 2024  
Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: Lynn B. Nickerson  
(765) 517-1581  
Email: k9nqw1979@gmail.com  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: EMA Building  
3921 S Garthwaite Rd  
Pre-register only, contact ahead  
Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Website: <https://www.grantarc.net/>

Bloomington IN 47401-5337  
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc  
Date: Jan 04 2025  
Time: 11:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: William F. Wootton  
(812) 327-5457  
Email: KC9ACL@ARRL.NET  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: First United Church - Call or email ahead due to COVID-19  
2420 E 3rd St

Register at 11:30am  
Testing at 12 NOON  
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Indianapolis IN 46254  
Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio Club  
Date: Jan 11 2025  
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: James Kajder  
(505) 228-3704  
Email: testing@indyradioclub.org  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility  
4020 Georgetown Rd  
Register or Call ahead  
Indianapolis IN 46254

Greenfield IN 46140-9654  
Sponsor: Hancock County ARC  
Date: Jan 18 2025  
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: David Keiser  
(317) 440-8486  
Email: kc9urp@hrtc.net  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Hancock EMA EOC  
640 South Franklin St  
Greenfield IN 46140-9654  
Website: <https://w9atg.org/ve-testing2/>

Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Sponsor: GCARC  
Date: Jan 22 2025  
Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)  
Contact: Lynn B. Nickerson  
(765) 517-1581  
Email: k9nqw1979@gmail.com

VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: EMA Building  
3921 S Garthwaite Rd  
Pre-register only, contact ahead  
Gas City IN 46933-1155  
Website: <https://www.grantarc.net/>

## **FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER**

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at [http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews\\_indyradioclub.org](http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews_indyradioclub.org).

## **SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS**

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

## **Signals from the Past:**

**From the December, 1964 *Amachewer*:**

**Excerpt from “20 YEARS AGO” by Bob Caskey W9DNQ:**

It was just about 20 years ago that the club had to vacate the Insley building, and President Leroy Waggoner, in a letter to the club members published in *Ama-Chewer*, bemoaned the lack of attendance at the meetings then being held in the Cropsey Auditorium at the Public Library. Some blame was laid to the fact that there was no smoking permitted and the fact that it was not downtown where all the street car lines passed close. (Remember this was during rationing.) As a result, the club directors decided to hold a series of meetings at the Warren Hotel.

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## Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- Hendricks County Hamfest (ARRL Indiana Section Convention): February 8, at Hendricks Co. Fairgrounds. Go to <https://n9hc.org/hamfest/> for details.

## 2024 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – [president@indyradioclub.org](mailto:president@indyradioclub.org)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - [vp@indyradioclub.org](mailto:vp@indyradioclub.org)
- Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [secretary@indyradioclub.org](mailto:secretary@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org](mailto:w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org)

## 2025 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – [president@indyradioclub.org](mailto:president@indyradioclub.org)
- Vice Pres.: Jim Brown, WØRLD - [vp@indyradioclub.org](mailto:vp@indyradioclub.org)
- Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [secretary@indyradioclub.org](mailto:secretary@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Dave Miller, K9RTT – [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- Dir. at large: Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB - [board@indyradioclub.org](mailto:board@indyradioclub.org)
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org](mailto:w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org)

**To Pay Dues or Donate to the club, go to**

**<https://tinyurl.com/irc-dues-payment>**

**Or Scan this QR Code with your smartphone:**

